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SUBJ/NATIONAL ENERGY AWARENESS MONTH//

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RMKS/1. The government shutdown made October a very challenging month for our Navy and Marine Corps team. However, let's not forget that October is also National Energy Awareness Month and remember that energy security must inform and shape every decision we make during research, development, and procurement of our equipment and systems, during training operations, and during daily life aboard ship, on base, and in our homes. Transforming the way we get and use energy requires the efforts of every Sailor and Marine from the newest Seaman Recruits and Privates to our Admirals and Generals.

2. In 2009, I committed the Navy and Marine Corps to meet five ambitious energy goals by 2020 and we are well on our way toward achieving them, but we need your help to get across the finish line. You work with our systems and equipment every day. What good ideas do you have? How many times have you said, if only the Navy or Marine Corps did this we would be better? If you are a Sailor or Marine with an idea on how to make a system more energy efficient, improve a process, or conserve our precious resources, then tell your leadership. Navy leadership, help your people move good ideas up the chain of command.

3. During the month of October, the Navy and Marine Corps team - as well as individual Sailors, Marines, civilian employees, and families - have the opportunity to take local action to demonstrate our commitment to energy security. No matter where you serve, you can take action by participating in local energy conservation and efficiency projects and renewable energy projects in your area. The options are limitless. Everyone can find or create a way to take local action.

4. With a consolidated Navy and Marine Corps effort, we will reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, reduce our tactical and strategic vulnerabilities, improve our combat capabilities, and we will continue to make our Department of the Navy a government leader in energy security.

5. Thank you for what you and your families do each and every day to improve our Navy and Marine Corps and protect our Nation.

6. Released by Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy.//

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